## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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66

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPM-01 COME-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /072 W

----- 118435

R 291505Z NOV 73 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1929 INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN AMCONSUL KADUNA

**UNCLAS LAGOS 9547** 

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, PINS, PINT, NI

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL HITCHES IN THE CENSUS

REF: LAGOS 9386

- 1. FIRST FOUR DAYS CENSUS HAS REVEALED THAT FMG
  UNDERESTIMATED SOME TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND HAS
  FALLEN BEHIND SCHEDULE. IN MAJOR CITIES, EARLY
  RELEASE WORKERS TO TAKE PART IN CENSUS RESULTED IN
  TRAFFIC CONGESTION UNPRECEDENTED EVEN IN NIGERIA,
  THUS PREVENTING MANY FROM REACHING HOME SOON ENOUGH
  TO BE COUNTED AS WELL AS DELAYING ENUMERATORS
  THEMSELVES. IN ADDITION, TIME REQUIRED FOR EACH
  INTERVIEW HAS PROVEN GREATER THAN EXPECTED, SOMETIMES REACHING ONE HOUR LENGTH.
- 2. IN ORDER REGAIN TIME LOST FMG HAS DECREED THAT ALL BUSINESSES AND OFFICES IN LAGOS AND IBADAN CLOSE COMPLETELY FOR LAST THREE DAYS OF SCHEDULED CENSUS PERIOD AND IN OTHER PARTS COUNTRY FOR LAST TWO DAYS. GOVERNMENT ALSO EXTENDED END OF CENSUS TAKING DAY FROM 1800 TO 1900.
- 3. COMMENT: IF THESE ACTIONS PROVE INSUFFICIENT, FMG
  MAY BE FORCED RELUCTANTLY TO EXTEND CENSUS DEADLINE DESPITE
  PUBLIC DECLARATIONS EARLIER IN WEEK THAT THEY WOULD NOT DO
  UNCLASSIFIED

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SO. REFUSAL TO EXTEND DEADLINE, IF IT APPEARS MANY PEOPLE

HAVE NOT BEEN COUNTED, COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS CHARGES OF
INCOMPETENCE, INACCURACY AND DISHONESTY LATER BY GROUPS
WHO FEEL DISADVANTAGED BY CENSUS RESULTS.
CROSBY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: CENSUS, POPULAR RESENTMENT

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: TECHNICAL HITCHES IN THE CENSUS

TAGS: SPOP, PINS, PINT, NI

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005